

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-10 SIG-03 HA-05
IO-14 SS-15 /072 R

DRAFTED BY AF/P:BARUSSELL:ADR

APPROVED BY AF/P:RWHOLLIDAY

-----001951 212133Z /70

R 210018Z APR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BISSAU

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY PRAIA

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR

SUBJECT:DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, APRIL 20, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY OFFICIAL
VERSION WILL FOLLOW.

SPOKESMAN: I HAVE A BRIEF STATEMENT HERE. WE WOULD LIKE TO
INFORM YOU THAT THE SECRETARY ON HIS WAY BACK FROM MOSCOW
THIS WEEKEND WILL STOP OVER IN LONDON FOR TALKS WITH
DAVID OWEN, SUNDAY EVENING OR MONDAY MORNING ABOUT SOUTHERN
AFRICAN MATTERS. AS ANNOUNCED IN LONDON EARLIER TODAY,
INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO THE OTHER THREE FOREIGN
MINISTERS OF THE WESTERN CONTACT GROUP, GENSCHER, JAMIESON,
AND DEGUINGAUD, TO JOIN THOSE DISCUSSIONS. THE SECRETARY
WILL RETURN TO WASHINGTON SOMETIME MONDAY AFTERNOON OR
EVENING.

Q: GIVE US THE COUNTRIES OF THOSE THREE FOREIGN MINISTERS?

A: FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, CANADA, AND FRANCE. I
UNDERSTAND THAT FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER OF GERMANY WILL BE
IN LONDON THIS WEEKEND, IN ANY CASE, ACCOMPANYING CHANCELLOR
SCHMIDT. I REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING FURTHER AT THIS TIME
AS TO WHETHER THE OTHERS WILL ACCEPT THE INVITATION AND
BE THERE. THEY WILL TALK, OBVIOUSLY, ABOUT NAMIBIA,
RHODESIA, AND OTHER SOUTHERN AFRICA TOPICS, BUT I DON'T
HAVE A PRECISE AGENDA FOR YOU.

Q: ARE ANY OF THE BLACK LEADERS GOING TO BE THERE?
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A: NO. IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS IS JUST A FIVE-
MEMBER CONTACT GROUP.

Q: TOM, WHAT IS THE CONNECTION BETWEEN FRANCE, CANADA,
AND GERMANY WITH RHODESIA?

A: I THINK THAT THE REAL CONNECTION IS NAMIBIA.

Q: THAT IS WHAT I THOUGHT TOO. SO WHY ARE THEY TALKING
ABOUT RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA?

A: I THINK THEY ARE INTER-RELATED PROBLEMS PERHAPS,
AND THE SECRETARY AND MR. OWEN HAVE HAD TALKS IN SOUTH
AFRICA, SALISBURY, AND IN DAR ES SALAAM ON A VARIETY OF
SUBJECTS IN THE AREA, BUT I THINK THE FOCUS OF THE THING
WILL BE NAMIBIA.

Q: DOES THAT MEAN THAT SOMETHING IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN THERE,
OR JUST ONE OF THOSE PERIODIC REVIEWS?

A: I THINK IT IS ONE OF THOSE PERIODIC REVIEWS. I THINK

MR. OWEN AND MR. VANCE WANTED TO CATCH THE OTHER THREE UP
ON THE RESULTS OF THEIR CONSULTATIONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

Q: TOM, WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL AID FUND
THAT WAS PROMISED TO THE RHODESIANS OR ZIMBABWIANS IN THE
EVENT THEY AGREED TO AN ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN?

A: I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE STATUS IS ON THAT. LET ME DIG
THAT OUT AND FIND OUT WHERE THAT STANDS.
CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE101456
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BARUSSELL:ADR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780171-0806
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780430/aaaaazdt.tel
Line Count: 125
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f50cefa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2890363
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, APRIL 20, 1978 FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN
To: BISSAU BANJUL MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f50cefa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014